

1 AN ACT relating to elementary and secondary teachers and principals.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 161.1211 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) The Education Professional Standards Board shall rank teachers as follows:

5 **(a)** Rank I. Those holding regular certificates ~~{and who have a master's degree~~
6 ~~in a subject field approved by the Education Professional Standards Board or~~
7 ~~equivalent continuing education and who have earned thirty (30) semester~~
8 ~~hours of approved graduate work or equivalent continuing education; or those~~
9 ~~teachers }~~who have met the requirements for Rank II and ***have additionally***
10 ***earned:***

- 11 **1. A master's degree in a subject field approved by the Education**
12 **Professional Standards Board or equivalent continuing education;**
13 **2. Initial certification of the National Board for Professional Teaching**
14 **Standards; or**
15 **3. Thirty (30) additional semester hours of approved graduate work or**
16 **equivalent continuing education.**

17 The board shall not allow a teacher who qualified for Rank I status on the
18 basis of his or her national board certification to maintain that classification if
19 the national board certificate is revoked for misconduct or voided for other
20 reasons.

- 21 **(b)** Rank II. Those holding regular certificates and who:
22 **1. Have a master's degree in a subject field approved by the Education**
23 **Professional Standards Board;**
24 **2. Have earned initial certification of the National Board for**
25 **Professional Teaching Standards; or**
26 **3. Have completed** equivalent continuing education.

27 **The board shall not allow a teacher who qualified for Rank II status on the**

1 *basis of his or her national board certification to maintain that*
2 *classification if the national board certificate is revoked for misconduct or*
3 *voided for other reasons.*

4 (c) Rank III. Those holding regular certificates and who have an approved four
5 (4) year college degree or the equivalent.

6 (d) Rank IV. Those holding emergency certificates and who have ninety-six (96)
7 to one hundred twenty-eight (128) semester hours of approved college training
8 or the equivalent.

9 (e) Rank V. Those holding emergency certificates and who have sixty-four (64)
10 to ninety-five (95) semester hours of approved college training or the
11 equivalent.

12 (2) In determining ranks, the Education Professional Standards Board shall classify
13 teachers who hold valid certificates in the respective ranks according to approved
14 college semester hours of credit or equivalent continuing education. The board, in
15 defining preparation for certain types of vocational teachers as equivalent to college
16 training, shall give consideration to apprenticeship training and industrial
17 experience.

18 (3) For purposes of the state salary schedule only as referenced in KRS 158.070, rank
19 shall be determined on September 15 of each year.

20 (4) Nothing in this section shall allow the Education Professional Standards Board by
21 regulation to reclassify downward any teachers in Ranks II or I.

22 ➔Section 2. KRS 161.027 is amended to read as follows:

23 (1) The Education Professional Standards Board, pursuant to KRS 161.028, shall by
24 administrative regulation establish requirements for a preparation program in
25 institutions of higher education for all new applicants for principal certification and
26 establish criteria for admission to the program.

27 (2) The Education Professional Standards Board and the Council on Postsecondary

1 Education shall evaluate the preparation programs for principals and maintain only
2 those institutional programs that can demonstrate both the quality and the capability
3 to enroll adequate numbers of students to justify the resources necessary for
4 maintenance of a quality program.

5 (3) The Education Professional Standards Board shall develop or select appropriate
6 assessments for applicants seeking certification as principals, including [-:

7 ~~(a)]an assessment of the ability to apply knowledge, instructional leadership,
8 management, and supervision skills[-; and~~

9 ~~(b) A specialized assessment on the current instructional and administrative
10 practices in Kentucky public education].~~

11 (4) The Education Professional Standards Board shall establish the minimum score for
12 successful completion of assessments and shall establish a reasonable fee to be
13 charged applicants for the actual cost of administration of the assessments. The
14 Education Professional Standards Board shall provide for confidentiality of
15 assessment scores.

16 (5) The Education Professional Standards Board shall develop an internship program
17 which shall provide for the supervision, assistance, and assessment of beginning
18 principals and assistant principals. The internship shall not be required of applicants
19 who have completed, within a ten (10) year period prior to making application, at
20 least two (2) years of successful experience as a principal in a school situation. The
21 Education Professional Standards Board, by administrative regulation, shall
22 establish the internship program.

23 (6) The certification of principals shall require the successful completion of the
24 examinations required by subsection (3) of this section. A one (1) year certificate
25 may be given to a person who has:

26 (a) A comparable certificate from another state; or

27 (b) All other qualifications except the assessments and is selected as a principal or

1 assistant principal in a district where the superintendent certifies to the
2 Education Professional Standards Board that there is a limited number of
3 applicants to meet the requirements.

4 Upon successful completion of the assessments, a certificate shall be issued for an
5 additional four (4) years. A person employed in Kentucky as a principal or assistant
6 principal who was certified in another state and practiced in that state for two (2) or
7 more years is exempt from taking the assessment described in subsection (3)(a) of
8 this section.

9 (7) Upon successful completion of the approved preparation program and the
10 assessments, the Education Professional Standards Board shall issue to the applicant
11 a statement of eligibility for internship valid for five (5) years. If the applicant does
12 not participate in an internship program within the five (5) year period, the applicant
13 shall reestablish eligibility by repeating and passing the assessments in effect at that
14 time or by completing a minimum of six (6) graduate hours, directly related to
15 instructional leadership, management, or supervision, at a regionally or nationally
16 accredited institution. The option for renewal through completion of graduate hours
17 shall be available only for the first reestablishment of eligibility. Upon obtaining
18 employment for an internship position as principal or assistant principal within the
19 period of eligibility, the applicant shall be issued the appropriate one (1) year
20 certificate for the position.

21 (8) All applicants for principal certification, after successfully completing the
22 assessments, shall successfully complete the internship program described in
23 subsection (5) of this section for principal certification. If the principal's or assistant
24 principal's internship performance is judged to be less than satisfactory pursuant to
25 administrative regulations developed by the Education Professional Standards
26 Board, the applicant for principal certification shall be provided with an opportunity
27 to repeat the internship one (1) time if the applicant is employed by a school district

1 as a principal or assistant principal.

2 (9) Following successful completion of the internship program, the principal certificate
3 shall be extended for four (4) years. Renewal of the certificate shall require the
4 completion of a continuing education requirement as prescribed by the Education
5 Professional Standards Board.

6 ➔Section 3. KRS 157.395 is amended to read as follows:

7 (1) Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, a public school teacher, or a
8 secondary teacher employed in a Kentucky Tech school or career and technical
9 education program operated by the Department of Education, who has attained
10 certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards as of July
11 14, 2000, through July 1, 2020,~~[for thereafter]~~ shall receive an annual national
12 board certification salary supplement of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for the life of
13 the certificate. *A teacher who attains certification from the National Board for*
14 *Professional Teaching Standards after July 1, 2020, shall receive an annual*
15 *national board certification salary supplement for the life of the certificate in*
16 *accordance with the amount appropriated for this purpose by the General*
17 *Assembly. If an annual supplement amount appropriated by the General*
18 *Assembly is less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000), the local board may provide*
19 *an additional supplement up to the amount required for the total annual*
20 *supplement to equal two thousand dollars (\$2,000).* The supplement shall be added
21 to:

- 22 (a) The teacher's base salary on the local board's single salary schedule and shall
23 be considered in the calculation for contributions to the Kentucky Teachers'
24 Retirement System; or
- 25 (b) The state-employed teacher's base salary and shall be considered in the
26 calculation for contributions to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System.

27 If a nationally certified teacher becomes no longer employed as a classroom teacher

1 or a teacher mentor in the field of his or her national certification, the supplement
2 shall cease.

3 (2) A local board of education or the Department of Education shall request
4 reimbursement for these purposes from the fund to support education excellence
5 described in KRS 157.330.